

IN SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

MARCH 27, 1848.

Submitted, and ordered to be printed.

Mr. RUSK made the following

REPORT:

The Committee on Military Affairs, to whom was referred "the memorial of Joshua Shaw, praying an additional allowance for the use of his inventions by the United States," beg leave to report:

According to the statement of the memorialist, it appears, that by an act of Congress approved on the 20th of February, 1846, his claim was referred to the Secretary of War for examination, with instructions to report to the proper officers of the treasury the sum to which he might, in justice and equity, be entitled, for the use of his various inventions, not exceeding the sum of \$25,000. It further appears that, in pursuance of the authority thus vested in him, the Secretary of War did examine the claim, and did report to the accounting officers that the memorialist was, in justice and equity, entitled to the sum of \$18,000, which sum was accordingly paid to him. As there is every reason to suppose that the head of the War Department acted conscientiously, and availed himself of all the information in the premises which his official station placed within his reach, and estimated the value of the claim, with due regard to the benefit derived by the government from the inventions of the memorialist, your committee see no good cause for enlarging the allowance already made to him, merely because it did not come up to the utmost limit prescribed by the law. They, therefore, are of opinion, that the prayer of the memorialist should not be granted, and pray to be discharged from the further consideration of the matter.

